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## **Hazard Tree Clearing Beginning along Barber Lake Road**

**(LARAMIE, Wyo.)** May 11, 2012 – Forest users in the Centennial, Wyoming area are advised to be alert for machinery and log trucks. A logging contractor will be felling and removing beetle-killed and dying trees along National Forest System Road 351 (Barber Lake Road), approximately 1 mile northwest of Centennial.

Work is being done to clear hazard trees that could impact the Barber Lake Road which accesses the Aspen, Pine and Willow Campgrounds, the Barber Lake and Fir Picnic Areas as well as the Upper Libby Summer Home Group. These campgrounds and picnic areas are also being treated for public safety.

While closing the Barber Lake Road is not currently anticipated, forest visitors should be aware of this work and plan for potential detours, delays and closures of this road and its associated developed recreation areas. Work may occur on weekends and holidays and will continue through the spring and into early summer. Logging machinery and log trucks may be encountered along this and other roads in the vicinity of Barber Lake and Wyoming Highway 130. Visitors are advised to watch for new signs and changed conditions while traveling on the forest. Do not enter areas which are posted closed, as they are closed for public safety.

"We hope to minimize impacts to the public but it is important that any closures or detours be respected as this work is being completed for their safety," said District Ranger Frank Romero. "If a road closure is necessary, access to permitted homes in the Upper Libby Cabin Group will be maintained."

Despite ongoing and extensive hazard tree reduction efforts, forest visitors are responsible for being aware of their surroundings and the risk of falling trees anytime they enter the forest. Trees impacted by beetles appear red or have no needles, but green trees left after treatments are also susceptible to wind throw due to removal of the trees around them. Remember to look up, look down and look around before setting up camps or parking vehicles under dead trees.

For more information about this or other projects please call the Laramie Ranger District office at 307-745-2300 to inquire about current conditions and to check the status of work in the area of planned visits. Road closures and project activities may also be found at <a href="http://fs.usda.gov/mbr">http://fs.usda.gov/mbr</a>.